

Date Mailed January 14, 1998

BEFORE THE

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of St. Croix Valley Natural Gas Company
for Approval to Increase Natural Gas Rates

5230-GR-102

NOTICE OF HEARING

Hearing Conference:

**January 27, 1998, 9:00 a.m.
Amnicon Falls Hearing Room**

**Public Service Commission Building
610 North Whitney Way
Madison, WI 53707**

On June 4, 1997, St. Croix Valley Natural Gas Company (applicant) filed an application with the Commission under ss. 196.03, 196.20 and 196.37, Wis. Stats., for authority to increase rates for natural gas service.

The application states, in part, that applicant's present rates do not and will not provide applicant with reasonable compensation for the natural gas service which it renders, and do not and will not provide applicant a reasonable return on the property and capital devoted to such service.

Applicant is a Wisconsin corporation having its principal office in River Falls, Wisconsin, and is a public utility as defined in sec. 196.01 (5), Wis. Stats. Applicant is engaged in the distribution and sale of natural gas in River Falls, Hammond and Prescott, Wisconsin, and adjacent areas.

Copies of the applicant's proposed testimony and exhibits were submitted with the application and may be obtained by written request to Mr. Donald Piepgras at St. Croix Valley Natural Gas Company, P. O. Box 6, River Falls, Wisconsin 54022.

A prehearing conference was held on December 15, 1997. A list of the issues was developed and marked as Exhibit 1. A copy of that exhibit is attached to this notice.

As indicated in Hearing Examiner Crosetto's letter dated December 18, 1997, direct testimony on all issues but rate design is due January 13, 1998. Rebuttal to such testimony is due January 22, 1998. Direct rate design testimony is due January 20, 1998, and rebuttal is due January 26, 1998. All due dates are in-hand, by noon.

This is a Type III action under s. PSC 4.10 (3), Wis. Adm. Code. No unusual circumstances suggesting the likelihood of significant environmental consequences have come to the Commission's attention. Neither an environmental impact statement under s. 1.11, Stats., nor an environmental assessment is required.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this matter is considered to be a Class 1 proceeding as defined in s. 227.01(3)(a), Stats.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a hearing will be held on January 27, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. at 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin, Amnicon Falls Hearing Room. (First floor.) This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the main floor entrance (Lobby) on the Whitney Way side of the building. Parking is available near the front entrance and parking for people with disabilities is available along the south side of the building. Any party with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact Richard Teslaw at (608) 267-9766.

If there are any questions regarding the hearing scheduled in this notice, please call Nancy Anthony, Examining Division at (608) 266-1261.

Other questions regarding this matter may be directed to Gail Maly, Natural Gas Division, at (608) 267-9327.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin _____

For the Commission.

Anita Sprenger, Administrator
Natural Gas Division

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Attachment